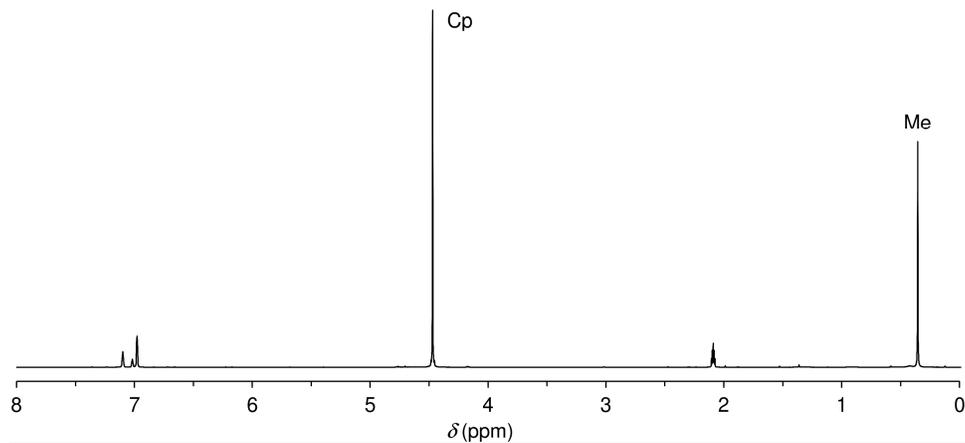


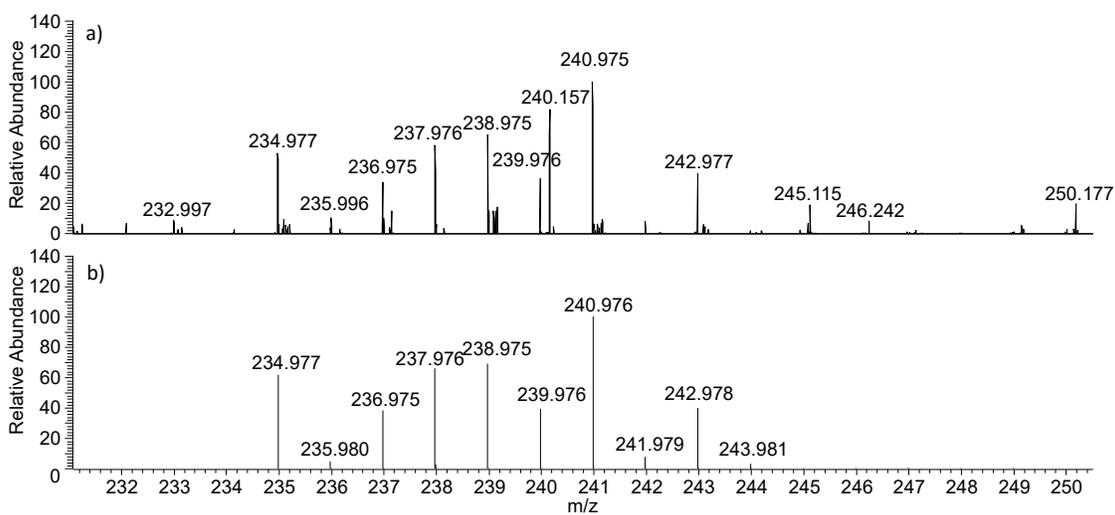
## Electronic Supplementary Information

### **$\beta$ -cyclodextrin and cucurbit[7]uril as protective encapsulation agents of the CO-releasing molecule [CpMo(CO)<sub>3</sub>Me]**

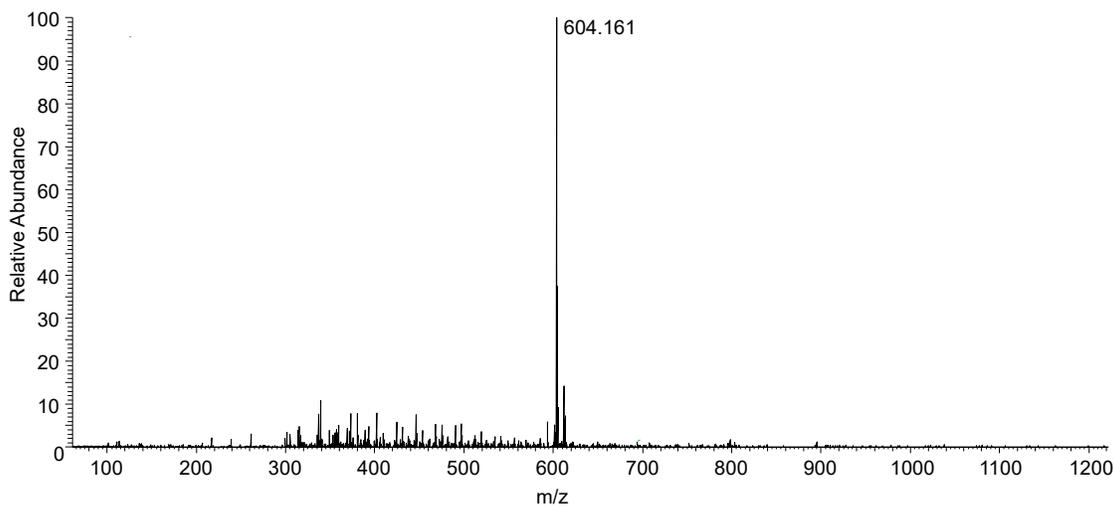
Rodrigo P. Monteiro, Isabel B. Calhau, Ana C. Gomes, André D. Lopes, José P. da Silva, Isabel S. Gonçalves\* and Martyn Pillinger\*



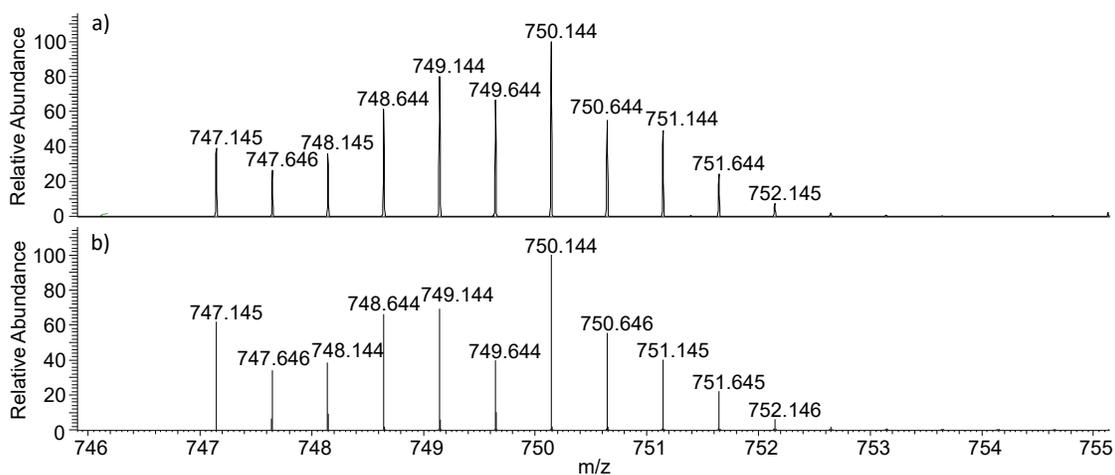
**Fig. S1**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** in toluene- $d_8$ .



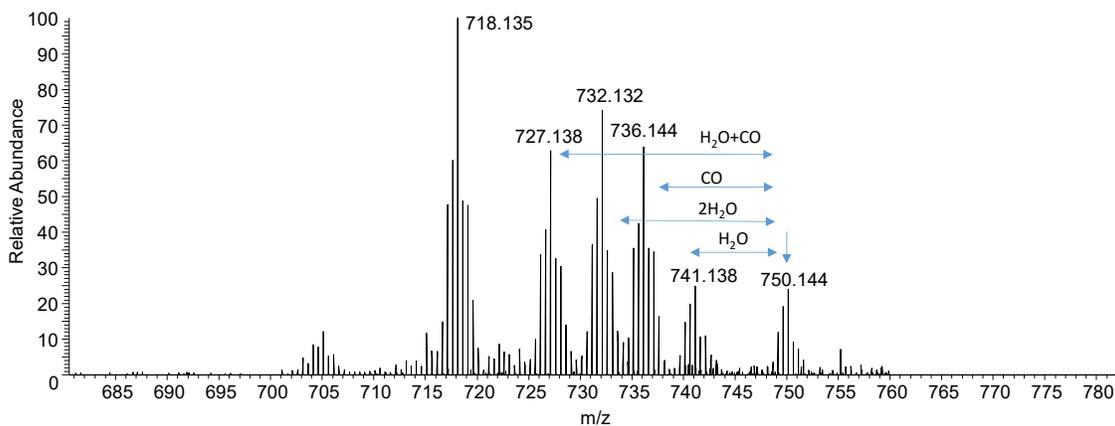
**Fig. S2** Experimental, a), and simulated, b) ( $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_3^+$ ), spectra between  $m/z$  230 and 250 of an ethanol solution of **1**. Positive ESI.



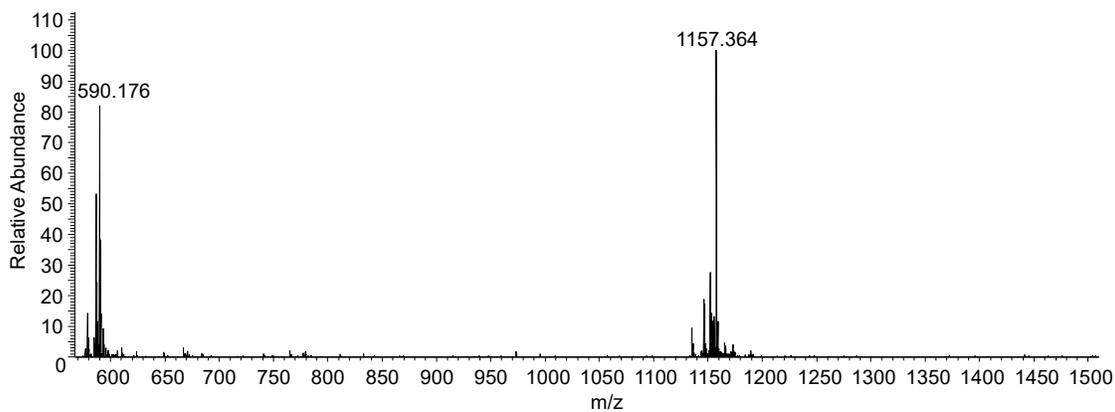
**Fig. S3** ESI-HRMS spectrum (positive polarity) of CB7 in aqueous solution (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ).



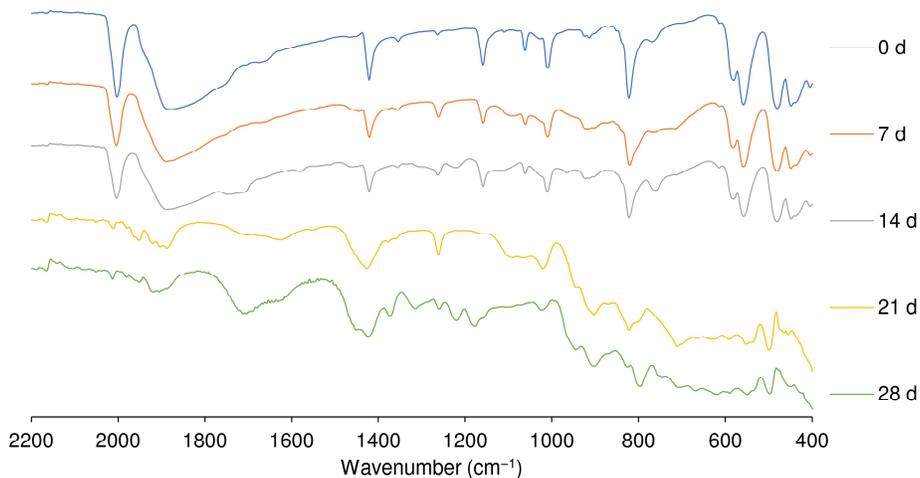
**Fig. S4** Experimental, a), and simulated, b),  $[\text{C}_{51}\text{H}_{55}\text{MoN}_{28}\text{O}_{19}\text{K}]^{2+}$ , spectra between  $m/z$  746 and 755 of aqueous **1**@CB7 complexes. Positive ESI.



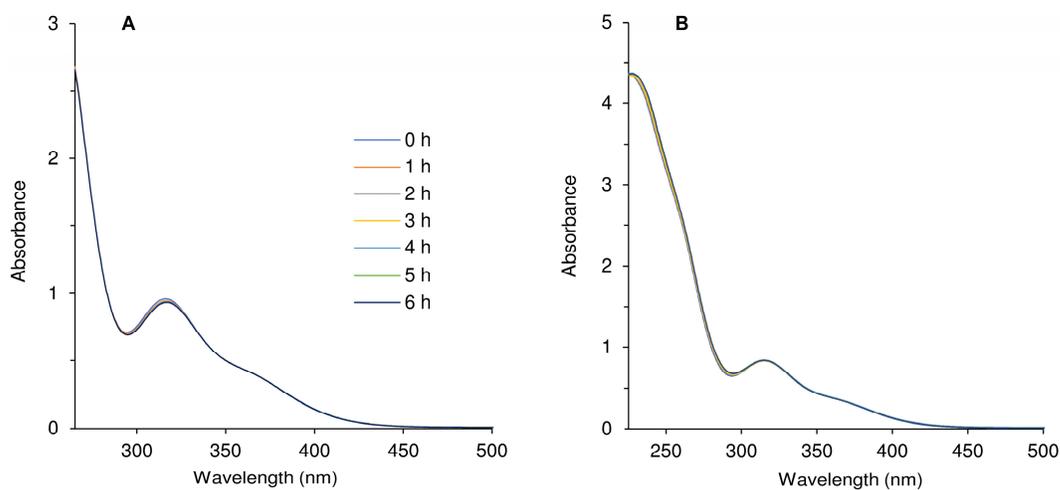
**Fig. S5** Fragmentation spectrum (CID) of  $m/z$  750 ( $\Delta m/z=10$ ), assigned to  $[\text{CB7}+\mathbf{1}+2\text{H}_2\text{O}+\text{H}+\text{K}]^{2+}$  spectrum of a saturated aqueous solution of **1** and CB7 (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ). Positive ESI.



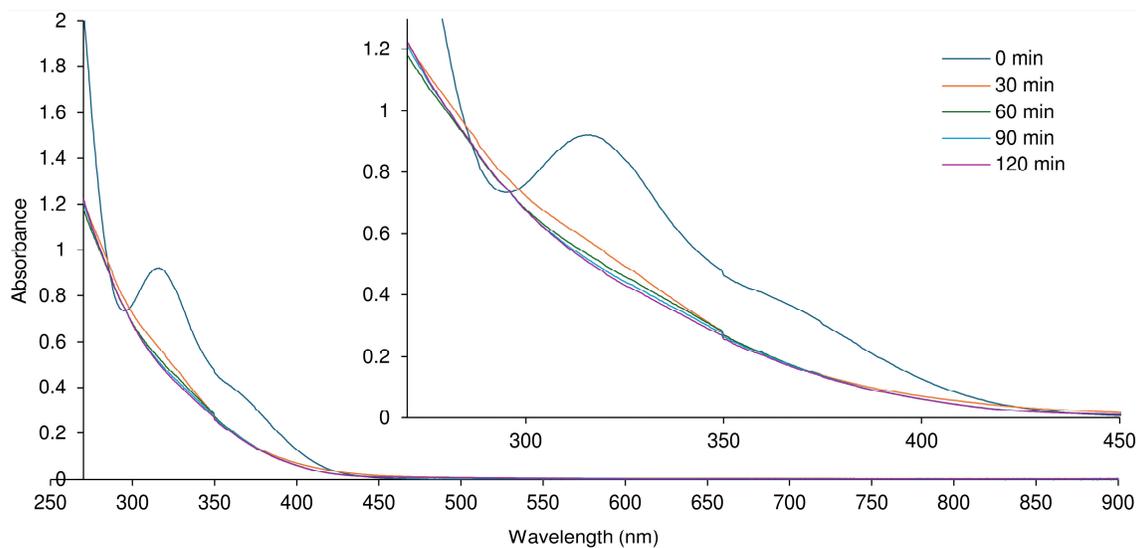
**Fig. S6** ESI-HRMS spectrum (positive polarity) of a saturated aqueous solution of **1** and  $\beta\text{CD}$  (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ).



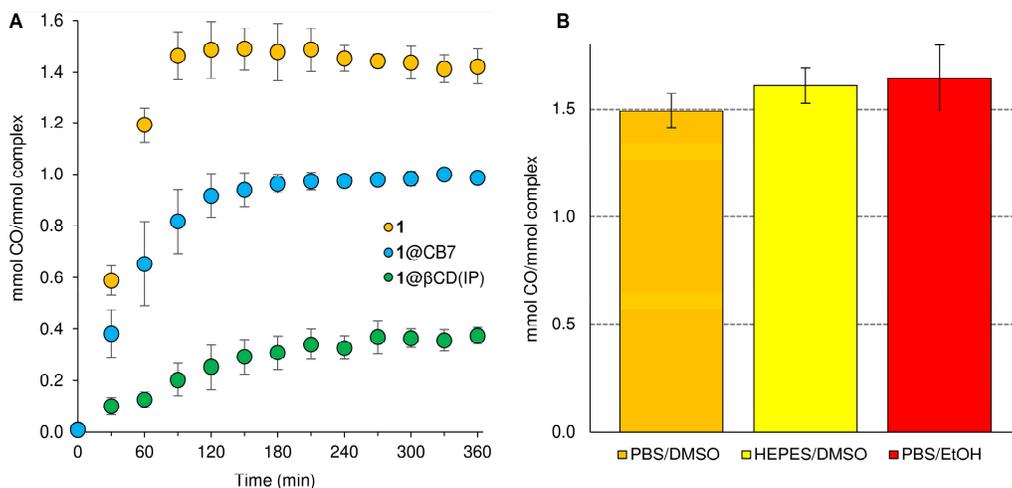
**Fig. S7** ATR FT-IR spectra of solid **1** after exposure to ambient air and light for 0 to 28 days.



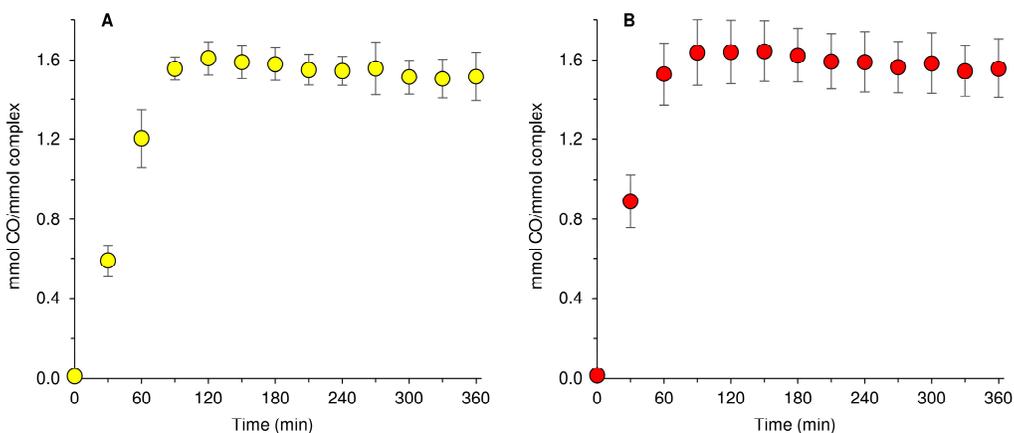
**Fig. S8** UV-vis spectra measured over 6 h of complex **1** (400  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in degassed (A) DMSO and (B) EtOH.



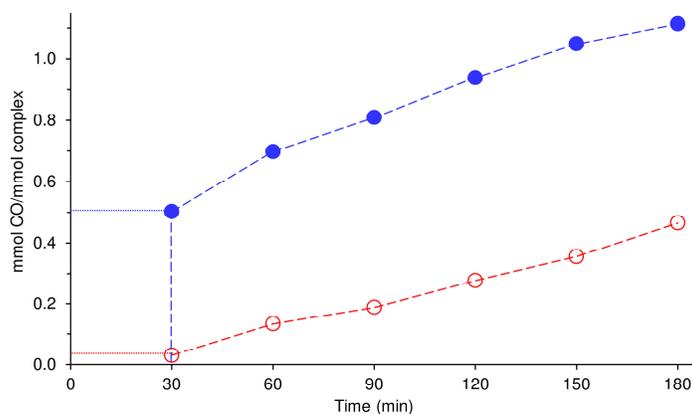
**Fig. S9** UV-vis spectra of **1** in degassed DMSO (400  $\mu\text{M}$ ) over 2 h with exposure to UV light (365 nm).



**Fig. S10** (A) CO release profiles in the dark for 20  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of complex **1**, **1@βCD(IP)** and **1@CB7** (DMSO as delivery solvent, 10 mM PBS, 0.4% sodium dithionite, pH 7.4, 37 °C). (B) Maximum amounts of CO released from **1** in Mb assays performed in the dark using different buffers (10 mM PBS or HEPES, 0.4% sodium dithionite, pH 7.4, 37 °C) and cosolvents (DMSO or ethanol). The data values are the mean  $\pm$  standard deviation of three independent assays.



**Fig. S11** CO release profiles obtained in the dark for 20  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of complex **1** (0.4% sodium dithionite): (A) DMSO as delivery solvent, 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 37 °C; (B) EtOH as delivery solvent, 10 mM PBS, pH 7.4, 37 °C. The data values are the mean  $\pm$  standard deviation of three independent assays.



**Fig. S12** Time courses of CO release from **1** (20  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 37 °C and in the dark (DMSO as delivery solvent, 10 mM PBS, 0.4% sodium dithionite, pH 7.4, 37 °C). Closed circles show the effect of adding Mb 30 min after **1** and dithionite. Open circles show the effect of adding Mb and dithionite 30 min after **1**. Horizontal dotted lines represent the amount of free CO in solution on the addition of Mb.